

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 - 20 (withdrawn).

Claim 21 (currently amended): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship, comprising:

 a pin connection member and a box connection member, said pin and box connection members being adapted for said pin connection member to be inserted into said box connection member;

 a securing means for securing said pin and box connection members together after insertion;

 said pin and box connection members having complementary recesses diametrically opposite one another for receiving said securing means when said pin connection member engages said box connection member;

 said securing means is a split ring biased to a locked position wherein said pin connection member may not be inserted in said box connection member without said securing means split ring being contracted to and retained in an unlocked position prior to insertion, said securing means split ring being moveable to a locked position wherein said pin and box connection members are secured together;

 said box connection member having an aperture for accessing said securing means split ring after insertion of said pin connection member into said box connection member; [[and,]]

 a locking means cooperating with said securing means split ring for locking said securing means split ring in said secured position~~[[.]]~~, said locking means is a wedge block, said wedge block secured to said box connection member, between the open ends of said split ring to maintain said split ring in said complementary recesses of said pin and box connection members; and,

a sealing means forming a pressure tight connection between said pin and box connection

members after said split ring is engaged.

Claims 22 - 24 (canceled).

Claim 25 (currently amended): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship according to Claim 24 21, further comprising:

a retainer means formed in said pin connection member, said retainer means retaining said split ring in said unlocked position prior to insertion of said pin connection member into said box connection member; and,

said retainer means is accessible through said aperture of said box connection member.

Claim 26 (original): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship according to Claim 25, further comprising:

an orientation pin secured to said box connection member;

an orientation slot formed in said pin connection member; and,

said securing means and said retainer means are accessible through said aperture of said box connection member when said orientation pin engages said orientation slot.

Claim 27 (original): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship according to Claim 26, wherein said retainer means includes:

a plurality of holes formed in said pin connection member, said holes receiving fasteners that engage complementary holes formed in said split ring adjacent said open ends of said split ring.

Claim 28 (original): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship according to Claim 27, wherein:

said plurality of holes formed in said pin connection member and said fasteners are threaded.

Claim 29 (original): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship according to Claim 28, wherein:

Appl. No. 10/770,916
Amdt. dated December 15, 2004
Reply to Office Action of October 7, 2004

Docket No.: OTD-030307-DIV 1

said split ring includes a spreader means adjacent said open ends of said split ring to assist in moving said split ring from said unlocked position to said locked position.

Claim 30 (original): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship according to
Claim 29, wherein:

said spreader means includes a pair of holes formed in said split ring.

Claim 31 (original): A connector for securing conduits in end to end relationship according to
Claim 30, wherein:

said spreader means holes are threaded.